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THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" (a) District Committees have been formed in all the districts. Taluk and Village Committees have yet to be formed in some districts as shown below :—

Name of the district.	Number of Committees yet to be formed. Taluk Committees.	Village Committees.
1 Guntur	..	5
2 Nellore	2	..

" (b) Necessary instructions have been issued to the Collectors in the matter and it is hoped that these remaining committees will also be formed very soon.

" (c) Clear instructions have been issued to all Collectors that local members of the Legislatures should be consulted in forming the village committees. The Government are not aware of any complaints so far that these instructions were not adhered to. As the members of the Legislatures are ex-officio members of the District and Taluk Committees, it is expected previous notice of the meetings of these committees will be given to members of legislature residing in villages by the Secretary or the President of the Village Committees concerned. The Government are not aware of any default by any of the Committees in this respect.

" (d) In view of the answer to '(c)' above the question does not arise."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Are the Government aware that Muslim Members of the Central Legislature are not included as members of some of the District and Taluk Committees? Is there any discrimination?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" There is no discrimination in this respect; because all members of the Legislatures are ex-officio members, and so this question does not arise."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I know notice has not gone to certain Members of the Central Legislature from some District and Taluk Committees."

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" The Government are not aware of it; they are entitled to get the notices. The Government will make enquiries."

Alleged supply of provisions from the Wholesale Rice Co-operative Stores at Tiruvottiyur.

* 88 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received a petition from one Mr. M. Munirathna Sarma, President, Village Food Committee, Tiruvottiyur,

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in July 1946, regarding supply of provisions, etc., from the Wholesale Rice Co-operative Stores at Tiruvottiyur, without permit from the rationing authorities ;

(*b*) whether similar petitions were received by the Collector and the Divisional Officer of the Saidapet taluk ;

(*c*) whether any action was taken thereon ; and

(*d*) if not, whether the Government propose to take any action on the same?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) Yes. The complaint made in the petition was that the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies with a party of about 70 persons visited Kathivakkam, a village near Tiruvottiyur, on a pleasure trip, that Sri Rangaswami Ayyangar, Manager of the Wholesale Co-operative Stores, in Tiruvottiyur, arranged with one 'Kumara Vilas' Hotel to prepare 250 iddlies and 100 jilabees to entertain the party and that this was done without obtaining the previous permission of the Rationing authorities.

" (*b*) Yes.

" (*c*) & (*d*) The petition received by the Government was forwarded to the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) and by the Board to the Collector for necessary action. With reference to the petitions received by the Collector and the Divisional Officer, Saidapet, the Collector conducted an enquiry into the matter and sent a report to the Board, with the connected records. The Board, after perusing the records, instructed the District Rationing Officer, to obtain the sanction of the District Magistrate, Chingleput for the prosecution of the persons who violated the orders of the Government, prohibiting the holding of a party consisting of more than 30 persons, consult the Public Prosecutor, get a complaint drafted and have it filed in the Court. The Collector has since reported that necessary action is being taken in this regard."

Alleged reservation of front seats in buses in mufassal.

* 89 *Q.*—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the front seats in buses plying in the mufassal are permanently marked with the word " reserved " ; and

(*b*) whether this mark is used as a cover to evict passengers occupying the front seats in order to provide comfortable accommodation to officials, especially of the Police and Revenue departments?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) & (*b*) Government have no information that this is generally the case though there may be some such instances."